

network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.

3. (Amended) A voice communication system according to claim 221,
the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said
nodes and also comprising

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response
computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuatable by an
input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network
for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-
mail over said computer network, each voice response computer also being actuatable by
an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said
computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer
network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.

4. (Amended) A voice communication system according to claim 221,
the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said
nodes;

the system also comprising:

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response
computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuatable by an
input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network
for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a
non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network,

wherein the system also provides buddy functionality whereby
communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

5. (Amended) A voice communication system according to claim 221 and also
comprising:

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response
computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuatable by an
input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said
computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet

protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network,

wherein the system also provides buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network.

6. (Amended) A voice communication system according to claim 221,
the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

the system also comprising:

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network, each voice response computer also being actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network,

the system also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

7. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221
wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network;

the system also comprising

a multiplicity of computers, each computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

8. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221
wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone
network;
the system also comprising
a multiplicity of computers, each computer being connected to a node
of said computer network and being actuatable by an input received from one of said
multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving
messages communicated via a telephone compatible Internet communication language
over said computer network and providing a telephone compatible Internet
communication language output to a telephone via said telephone network, at least one
of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

9. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221
wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone
network;
the system also comprising
a multiplicity of computers, each computer being connected to a node
of said computer network and being actuatable by an input received from one of said
multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages
received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible
Internet communication language over said computer network, each computer also
being actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of computers via said
computer network for receiving messages communicated over said computer network
and providing a telephone compatible Internet communication language output to a
telephone via said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said
messages being user-selected buddies.

10. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
a recorder recording a sender's voice;
a web server storing the sender's voice; and
a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said
notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web

server.

11. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
at least one web server connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes;
and

at least one voice response computer connected to one of said
multiplicity of nodes,

and wherein:

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates data
with said at least one web server using a telephone compatible Internet communication
language;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates voice
with said at least one voice response computer; and

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates
identification information to said at least one voice response computer, said
identification information establishing a connection between said voice and said data.

12. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
at least one web server connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes;
and

at least one voice response computer connected to one of said
multiplicity of nodes,

and wherein:

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates data
with said at least one web server using a telephone compatible Internet communication
language;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates voice
with said at least one voice response computer;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates
identification information to said at least one voice response computer, said
identification information establishing a connection between said voice and said data;
and

said at least one voice response computer records said voice received from said at least one of said multiplicity of telephones.

13. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
at least one web server connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes;
and

at least one voice response computer connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes,

and wherein:

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates data with said at least one web server using a telephone compatible Internet communication language;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates voice with said at least one voice response computer; and

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates identification information to said at least one voice response computer, said identification information establishing a connection between said voice and said data;

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said at least one voice response computer records said voice received from said at least one of said multiplicity of telephones and stores said voice on said web server; and

a notification is sent to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the voice from said web server.

14. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 221

wherein the computer network enables e-mail communication between said nodes; and

wherein the system also comprises

at least one database connected to said computer network and storing e-mail communications between said nodes.

15. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 14 and also comprising at least one voice response computer connected at a node of said computer network,

said at least one voice response computer being capable of accessing said at least one database.

16. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 15 and wherein at least one proxy is interposed between said at least one voice response computer and said at least one database.

17. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

18. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

19. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

20. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and wherein said voice response computers are operative to convert DTMF to a buddy communication protocol.

21. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and wherein said voice response computers communicate with a database.

22. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 21 and wherein said database is an SQL database.

23. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and wherein said

multiplicity of voice response computers is actuated by the sender choosing an e-mail address of a recipient from a pre-defined directory.

24. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers are actuated by the sender entering an e-mail address of a recipient via DTMF codes.

25. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 24 and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers are operative to store in a directory, e-mail addresses entered by a sender.

26. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 1 and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers is actuated by the sender entering an e-mail address of a recipient via speech recognition by one of said multiplicity of voice response computers.

27. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 2 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network.

28. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 2 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

29. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 2 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

30. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 2 and wherein said voice

response computers are capable of sensing the presence of a link to an audio file in e-mail received thereat.

31. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 30 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of accessing said audio file via said link for playing said audio file to a recipient.

32. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 3 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

33. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 3 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

34. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 3 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 4 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

37. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 4 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone

network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

38. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 4 and wherein said voice response computers are operative to convert DTMF to a buddy communication protocol.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 5 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

45. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 5 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

46. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 5 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of sensing the presence of a link to an audio file.

47. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 46 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of accessing said audio file via said link for playing said audio file to a recipient.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 6 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

50. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 6 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

51. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein the recorder employs a telephone network.

52. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein the recorder employs a microphone outputting to a computer.

53. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein said web server stores the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit.

54. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 53 and wherein the recorder spools the sender's voice to a local storage facility.

55. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 53 and also comprising a transmitter transmitting a sender's voice.

56. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 55 and wherein said transmitter transmits said sender's voice via HTTP PUT to said web server.

57. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 55 and wherein the transmitter spools the sender's voice to an SMTP server.

58. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 55 and wherein the transmitter encodes a sender's voice in a compressed format.

59. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 55 and wherein said web server includes an SMTP server.

60. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 55 and wherein said web server includes an HTTP server enabled to handle PUT commands.

61. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein said web server encodes said sender's voice in a streaming format.

62. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein said web server is operative to encode multiple senders' voices simultaneously.

63. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein said web server includes functionality which associates user preferences with recorded user voice elements.

64. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and also having the following functionality:

formatting the notification as a function of at least one parameter of the recipient.

65. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and also having the following functionality:

formatting the notification for a plurality of participants as a function of at least one parameter of each recipient.

66. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 10 and wherein said link connects to at least an advertising medium.

67. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 66 and wherein said link also connects to an audio file.

68. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 14 and wherein each of said multiplicity of databases contains a plurality of mail tables, wherein each mail table has assigned thereto a limited number of users.

69. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 14 and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a list of destination addresses.

70. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 69 and wherein said list comprises a multiplicity of lists of destination addresses.

71. (Unchanged) A communication system according to claim 70 and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a meta-list for indexing said multiplicity of lists.

(Claims 72 - 82 cancelled)

83. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

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a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;
an audio player reading the selected e-mail message;
an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message,
producing an audio file; and
a transmitter sending the audio file as an attachment to a reply e-mail.

84. (Unchanged) The system of claim 83 wherein the audio file is a WAV file.

85. (Unchanged) The system of claim 84 wherein the audio file is a compressed WAV

file.

86. (Unchanged) The system of claim 83 and also including a downloader downloading an e-mail message from an e-mail server.

87. (Unchanged) The system of claim 83 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a pager.

88. (Unchanged) The system of claim 83 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a fax machine.

89. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;
a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;
an audio player reading the selected e-mail message;
an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message,
producing an audio file;
a computer storing the audio file; and
a transmitter sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file.

90. (Unchanged) The system of claim 89 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

91. (Unchanged) The system of claim 89 and also including a downloader downloading an e-mail message from an e-mail server.

92. (Unchanged) The system of claim 89 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a pager.

93. (Unchanged) The system of claim 89 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a fax machine.

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94. (Amended) A method according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:
playing by a local computer an incoming audio file containing a voice
message, the incoming audio file residing on a remote computer; and
saving the incoming audio file as a local audio file on the local
computer after said playing step.

95. (Unchanged) The method of claim 94 wherein the incoming audio file is a
streaming audio file.

96. (Unchanged) The method of claim 95 wherein the streaming audio file is a
RealAudio file.

97. (Unchanged) The method of claim 94 wherein the local audio file is a WAV file.

98. (Unchanged) The method of claim 94 wherein the local audio file is a compressed
WAV file.

99. (Unchanged) The method of claim 94 wherein the local audio file is a RealAudio
file.

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(claims 100 - 108 cancelled)

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109. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
an audio player within a local computer playing an incoming audio
file containing a voice message, the incoming audio file residing on a remote computer;
and
a data processor saving the incoming audio file as a local audio file on
the local computer, after said audio player plays the incoming audio file.

110. (Unchanged) The system of claim 109 wherein the incoming audio file is a
streaming audio file.

111. (Unchanged) The system of claim 110 wherein the streaming audio file is a RealAudio file.

112. (Unchanged) The system of claim 109 wherein the local audio file is a WAV file.

113. (Unchanged) The system of claim 109 wherein the local audio file is a compressed WAV file.

114. (Unchanged) The system of claim 109 wherein the local audio file is a RealAudio file.

115. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;
a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;
a first audio player reading the selected e-mail message;
an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message,
producing an audio file;
a transmitter sending the audio file as an attachment to a reply e-mail;
and
a second audio player playing the audio file.

116. (Unchanged) The system of claim 115 wherein the audio file is a WAV file.

117. (Unchanged) The system of claim 115 wherein the audio file is a compressed WAV file.

118. (Unchanged) The system of claim 117 and also comprising a decompressor decompressing the audio file.

119. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:

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a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;
a first audio player reading the selected e-mail message;
an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message,
producing an audio file;
a computer storing the audio file;
a transmitter sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file;
a second audio player playing the audio file; and
a data processor saving the audio file.

120. (Unchanged) The system of claim 119 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

121. (Unchanged) The system of claim 119 and wherein said data processor converts the audio file to a designated file format.

122. (Unchanged) The system of claim 121 wherein the designated file format is a WAV format.

123. (Unchanged) The system of claim 121 wherein the designated file format is a compressed WAV format.

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(Claims 124 - 128 cancelled)

129. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:
a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;
a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;
an audio player reading the selected e-mail message;
an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message and producing an audio file containing the recorded reply; and
a transmitter sending the audio file to a computer and sending a reply

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e-mail containing a link to the audio file.

130. (Unchanged) The system of claim 129 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

131. (Unchanged) The system of claim 129 and also including a downloader downloading an e-mail message from an e-mail server.

132. (Unchanged) The system of claim 129 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a pager.

133. (Unchanged) The system of claim 129 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a fax machine.

134. (Cancelled)

(claims 135 - 138 cancelled)

139. (Amended) A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:

- a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;
- a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;
- a first audio player reading the selected e-mail message;
- an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message, and producing an audio file containing the recorded reply;
- a transmitter sending the audio file to a computer and sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file;
- a second audio player playing the audio file; and
- a data processor saving the audio file.

140. (Unchanged) The system of claim 139 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

141. (Unchanged) The system of claim 139 and wherein said data processor converts

the audio file to a designated file format.

142. (Unchanged) The system of claim 141 wherein the designated file format is a WAV format.

143. (Unchanged) The system of claim 141 wherein the designated file format is a compressed WAV format.

144. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;
providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and
making each voice response computer actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network.

145. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and also comprising the step of providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

146. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and also comprising the step of providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

147. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and also comprising the step of providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a

user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

148. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and wherein said voice response computers are operative to convert DTMF to a buddy communication protocol.

149. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and wherein said voice response computers communicate with a database.

150. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 149 and wherein said database is an SQL database.

151. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and comprising the step of actuating at least one of said voice response computers by choosing an e-mail address of a recipient from a pre-defined directory.

152. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and comprising the step of actuating at least one of said voice response computers by entering an e-mail address of a recipient via DTMF codes.

153. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 152 and comprising the step of operating at least one of said voice response computers to store in a directory, e-mail addresses entered by a sender.

154. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 and comprising the step of actuating at least one of said voice response computers by entering an e-mail address of a recipient via speech recognition by the at least one of said multiplicity of voice response computers.

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155. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

G12

providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

making each voice response computer actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.

156. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 155 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network.

157. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 155 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

158. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 155 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

G13

159. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 155 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of sensing the presence of a link to an audio file.

160. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication system according to claim 159 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of accessing said audio file via said link for playing said audio file to a recipient.

G14

161. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

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enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;
providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network;
making each voice response computer actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;
making each voice response computer also actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network; and
providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.

162. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 161 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

163. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 161 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

164. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 161 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

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165. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;
connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

9/5

making actuatable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network.

166. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

167. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

168. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

169. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and comprising the step of operating said voice response computers to convert DTMF to a buddy communication protocol.

170. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and comprising the step of actuating said multiplicity of voice response computers by choosing an e-mail address of a recipient from a pre-defined directory.

171. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and comprising the step of actuating said multiplicity of voice response computers by entering an e-mail address of a recipient via DTMF codes.

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2/27

172. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 171 and comprising the step of operating said multiplicity of voice response computers to store in a directory, e-mail addresses entered by a sender.

173. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 and comprising the step of actuating said multiplicity of voice response computers by the entering an e-mail address of a recipient via speech recognition by one of said multiplicity of voice response computers.

A/6

174. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

actuating an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network,

the method also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

175. (Cancelled)

176. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 174 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

177. (Cancelled)

A17

178. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 174 and comprising the step of using at least one of said voice response computers to sense the presence of a link to an audio file.

179. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 178 and comprising the step of being capable of accessing said audio file via said link for playing said audio file to a recipient.

180. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

A18

enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;
connecting at least one voice response computer of a multiplicity of voice response computers to a node of said computer network; and
actuating a voice response computer by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network, each voice response computer also being actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.

181. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 180 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network.

182. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 180 and also providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

183. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 181 and also

A19

providing buddy functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected buddies via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

184. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216
wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network

the method also comprising:

connecting at least one computer of a multiplicity of computers, to a node of said computer network; and

actuating at least one of said computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

185. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216
wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network

the method also comprising:

connecting at least one computer of a multiplicity of computers to a node of said computer network; and

actuating at least one of said computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving messages communicated via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network and providing a telephone compatible Internet communication language output to a telephone via said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

186. (Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216
wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone

network

the method also comprising:

connecting at least one computer of a multiplicity of computers to a node of said computer network; and

actuating at least one of said computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, each computer also being actuatable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of computers via said computer network for receiving messages communicated over said computer network and providing a telephone compatible Internet communication language output to a telephone via said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

A/5

187. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 216 for use with a computer network and also comprising the steps of:

providing a recorder recording a sender's voice;

providing a web server storing the sender's voice; and

providing a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server.

188. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of employing a telephone network in the recorder.

189. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of employing a microphone outputting to a computer in the recorder.

190. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit of said web server.

191. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 190 and comprising the step of spooling the sender's voice to a local storage facility in said recorder.

192. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 190 and also comprising the step of transmitting a sender's voice from a transmitter.

193. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of transmitting said sender's voice via HTTP PUT to said web server of said transmitter.

194. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of spooling the sender's voice to an SMTP server of said transmitter.

195. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of encoding a sender's voice in a compressed format in said transmitter.

196. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of including an SMTP server in said web server.

197. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of including an HTTP server enabled to handle PUT commands in said web server.

198. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of encoding said sender's voice in a streaming format in said web server.

199. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and

comprising the step of operating said web server to encode multiple senders' voices simultaneously.

200. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of including a functionality which associates user preferences with recorded user voice elements in said web server.

201. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of including the following functionality:

formatting the notification as a function of at least one parameter of the recipient.

202. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of including the following functionality:

formatting the notification for a plurality of participants as a function of at least one parameter of each recipient.

203. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 and comprising the step of connecting said link to at least an advertising medium.

204. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 203 and also comprising the step of connecting said link also connects to an audio file.

205. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 216 using:

at least one web server connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes;
and

at least one voice response computer connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes,

and also comprising the steps of:

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates data with said at least one web server using a telephone compatible Internet communication language;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates voice with said at least one voice response computer; and

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates identification information to said at least one voice response computer, said identification information establishing a connection between said voice and said data.

206. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 216 using:

at least one web server connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes; and

at least one voice response computer connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes,

and also comprising the steps of:

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates data with said at least one web server using a telephone compatible Internet communication language;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates voice with said at least one voice response computer;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates identification information to said at least one voice response computer, said identification information establishing a connection between said voice and said data; and

said at least one voice response computer records said voice received from said at least one of said multiplicity of telephones.

207. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 216 using:

at least one web server connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes; and

at least one voice response computer connected to one of said multiplicity of nodes,

and the method also comprising the steps of:

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates data with said at least one web server using a telephone compatible Internet communication

language;

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates voice with said at least one voice response computer; and

at least one of said multiplicity of telephones communicates identification information to said at least one voice response computer, said identification information establishing a connection between said voice and said data;

said at least one voice response computer records said voice received from said at least one of said multiplicity of telephones and stores said voice on said web server; and

a notification is sent to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the voice from said web server.

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208. (Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 216 and also comprising the steps of:

enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

connecting at least one database to said computer network; and

storing e-mail communications between said nodes.

209. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 208 and also comprising the step of connecting at least one voice response computer at a node of said computer network, said at least one voice response computer being capable of accessing said at least one database.

210. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 209 and comprising the step of interposing at least one proxy interposed between said at least one voice response computer and said at least one database.

211. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 208 and wherein each of said multiplicity of databases contains a plurality of mail tables, wherein each mail table has assigned thereto a limited number of users.

212. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 208 and

wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a list of destination addresses.

213. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 212 and wherein said list comprises a multiplicity of lists of destination addresses.

214. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 213 and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a meta-list for indexing said multiplicity of lists.

215. (Unchanged) A method of voice communication according to claim 178 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of sensing the presence of a link to an audio file in e-mail received thereat.

Kindly add the following new claims 216 - 221:

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216. A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:
providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;
providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;
enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;
communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication; and
playing said streaming audio over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

A21

217. A method according to claim 216 wherein said playing step comprises playing the streaming audio in a telephone.

218. A method according to claim 216 wherein said playing step comprises playing the streaming audio through a voice response computer.

219. A method according to claim 217 wherein said link comprises a URI (universal resource identifier).

220. A method according to claim 218 wherein said link comprises a URI (universal resource identifier).

221. A voice communication system comprising:
a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;
a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;
streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication; and
a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections. --